

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Independent claims 1, 15-16, 27 and 36 have been amended to incorporate the allowed claim limitations of claim 14. Claims 13-14 were canceled without prejudice. Therefore claims 1-12 and 15-36 remain pending in this application.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) / ALLOWED SUBJECT MATTER**

Claims 1-6, 10-13, 15-23 and 27-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Carpini (U. S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0043792). Additionally, claims 7-9, 24-26 and 33-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Carpini in view of Garcia-Luna-Aceves (U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0167960).

Claim 14 was deemed allowable by the Examiner and Applicant has therefore incorporated the allowable subject matter, as well as intervening dependent claim 13 which claim 14 depended from, into independent claim 1.

Additionally, Applicant has incorporated the allowable subject matter of claim 14 into independent claims 15, 16, 27 and 36.

Applicant therefore respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are now allowable and respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections.

Appl. No.: 10/611,573  
Amdt. Dated December 14, 2007  
Response to Office Action of October 16, 2007

**CONCLUSION**

In light of the foregoing amendments and the remarks, Applicant believes that all currently pending claims are presently in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this application.

Date: December 14, 2007

Respectfully Submitted,  
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